

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PSC TO CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING IN OMAHA
ON PROPOSED INCREASE IN SAFEWAY CAB RATES**

LINCOLN – The Nebraska Public Service Commission will conduct a public hearing March 25 in Omaha on an application by Safeway Cab to increase its rates.

The hearing will be at 9 a.m. in Room 127 of the Nebraska State Office Building at 1313 Farnam Street. Commissioner Anne Boyle of Omaha will preside.

Safeway has proposed several changes to its rate structure with current rates in parentheses:

- Standard Fare, (\$1.95 initial drop charge), \$1.95 initial drop charge;
- Each Additional Unit, (30 cents each one-sixth mile), 25 cents each one-eighth miles;
- Senior Citizen Fare Each Additional Unit, (20 cents each one-seventh mile), 25 cents each additional one-sixth mile;
- Out-of-Town Fare, (\$2 per mile), \$2.25 per mile;
- Waiting Time, (15 cents each 45 seconds), 25 cents each 36 seconds;
- Cab Hired By the Hour, (\$20 per hour), \$25 per hour; and
- Time and Mileage Charge, (no current charge), waiting time plus meter fare).

The Commission's current policy makes rates uniform for all taxi operators in Omaha. Omaha is the only Nebraska community that is home to competing cab companies. The other providers are Checker Cab, Yellow Cab, Happy Cab, and Cornhusker Cab.

The Commission will accept testimony from the public at the hearing on Safeway's application. The hearing will be conducted in a legislative format with no cross-examination of witnesses from the public.

Safeway previously asked the Commission for an increase in rates which were approved on November 8, 2000.